



CAREER and TECHNICAL EDUCATION UPDATE March 1, 2014

CTE Spring Data Collection Now OPEN

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Spring Data Collection begins March 1, 2014, and ends April 30, 2014. This AIM collection asks schools to identify all 12th grade high school students who were enrolled at any point during the current 2013-2014 school year who meet the definition of a CTE Concentrator. CTE Concentrators are 12th graders who have earned three (3) or more credits in any CTE program in any combination during their years of high school. Currently enrolled courses count towards credits earned. CTE Concentrators must have the 'Concentrator' box checked and an 'Area of Concentration' entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system. If the student has a child or shares the parenting of a child, the 'Single Parent' box should also be marked. High schools who receive funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program must complete this CTE Spring Data Collection.

Instructions for completing the CTE Spring Data Collection can be found on the AIM webpage as well as inside the 'Data Collections' tab on the Secondary CTE web page located at this link:

http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_6

Questions regarding this data collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1.877.424.6681 or opiainhelp@mt.gov. Questions regarding CTE programs and/or the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program should be directed to Diana Fiedler at 406.444.9019 or dfiedler@mt.gov.

Montana Career Information System (MCIS) Update

MCIS User Group Meeting

Collecting feedback on the MCIS program from our users is an important way to provide a program that meets the needs of our customers. In December we asked for nominations for an MCIS User Group. Over 20 people responded, representing all of the MCIS customer types. Fourteen members participated in a webinar on February 4th. Some members are new to MCIS and others have been using the program almost since its beginnings in the 1970s. Each brings a valuable perspective on MCIS. We discovered that awareness of all of the tools within MCIS is something we need to work on. The group is getting a sneak peak of the progress the CIS Consortium is making on the redesign of Reality Check and has already started to provide us feedback. As the redesign of the Site Administration Tools progresses, they will also be offering up suggestions on the prototype once it becomes available.

If you have recommendations for updates, changes, or additions to MCIS contact one of the User Group members.

MCIS User Group Members:

Boris Karasch - Lake County Job Service
Carole Luster - Riverside Middle School
Charlene Herron - TRIO/FVCC Career Counselor
Darlene Sellers - MSU Northern
Eric Swenson - Office of Public Instruction
Janie Delp - Student Advocate Hardin High School
Jennifer Hausauer - Glasgow Middle School
Jerry Kenik - Great Falls Job Service
Kari Woods - Great Falls Job Service
Kate Warner-Combs - Fromberg Schools
Kathleen O'Leary - Bitterroot College



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Linda Cotton - Cascade High School
Marilyn Cron - East Middle School
Melanie Magee - Browning Schools Gear Up Coordinator
Michelle Gasek - Educational Opportunity Center/ TRiO
Pat Reuss - MSU Billings
Patti Patterson - Lake County Job Service
Penny Beckman - Thompson Falls High School
Samantha Humphrey - Business Teacher Helena High
Shari Johnson - Columbia Falls Junior High
Suzette Fletcher - Billings Adult Education
Tawnya Catron - Castle Rock Middle School
Valarie Karst - North Middle School
Valerie Otto - Career Transitions

**MCIS information submitted by MCIS Director, Annette Miller, phone: (406) 444-2741;
Email: anmiller@mt.gov. For training requests or technical support, contact Pam Boggs or Donetta McDowell at (800) 541-3904 or email mcrn@mt.gov.**

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

No update at this time.

Dr. Brad King

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FFA



It's March already and that means the busiest month for Montana FFA. State officers have wrapped up chapter visits and are deep in convention planning.

February was a great month as we celebrated National FFA Week, February 15-21, chapter visits and many chapter events around the state. A huge highlight from February was the Easton Corbin Experience. Easton Corbin with sponsorship from Ram Trucks came to Billings and put on a free concert for our FFA members. This was a great way to kick off National FFA Week and celebrate w wonderful country artist and National FFA Sponsor.

Along with convention planning, state officers are traveling around the state attending district contests, chapter events and state contests.

March kicks off with a busy weekend in Cascade and Great Falls with our state Horse Evaluation Career Development Event and JAAM, which is Job Interview, Agricultural Communications, Agricultural Issues and Marketing Plan CDEs. From JAAM, officer will head to Helena to discuss the importance of agronomy in our state as the Fergus County weed district is trying to get seed vials for all agricultural education programs round the state.

Mid March we will be headed to Missoula for the Veterinary Science state contest and then it is MSU Spring Break. For most, spring break is a chance for students to head home, take a break and relax. Well.... For the state officers it means a busy week on MSU campus practicing for state convention, preparing awards, retiring addresses, scripts and many more details leading up to state convention. Then it will be the last week of March before we know it. The last week of March we will be celebrating our 84th State Convention at the Expo Park in Great Falls. We will be welcoming a past National officer, Wiley Bailey as our keynote speaker, National Officer Jason Wetzler as a workshop presenter and speaker, Josh Bledsoe,



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National FFA CFO as our keynote speaker at our State Degree Dinner and Brian Imbus, Mentalist and Hypnotist. We will also be welcoming the Mayor of Great Falls, 1,200 + FFA members, advisors, parents and guests and sponsors from around the state.

This is an exciting time for Montana FFA. We wish all CTSOs good luck with their state conferences as we all prepare for the busiest time of the year.

FFA information submitted by Montana FFA State Director, Amanda Carlson, phone: (406) 994-7050; Email: ffaamandac@yahoo.com.

Business Education

Montana Business Educators Attend Western Region Conference

A number of Montana business educators attended the 2014 Western Business Education Association Conference in Portland, Oregon. The 2014 WBEA Conference, titled Relevant Opportunities & Strategies for Excellence, was held February 13-17.

In addition to a number of breakout sessions and hands-on computer workshops, the conference also included keynote address by Kenneth "Cat Daddy" Pogson and Tres Shannon, founders of Voodoo Doughnuts, as well as Ken Trasher, former President and CEO of Fred Meyer Stores.

Two Montana business educators, Kerri Cobb (Bozeman) and Beth Lawrence (Garfield County District High School, Jordan), participated in the 2014 Professional Development Institute. The topics of the Professional Development Institute included leadership qualities, communication styles, organizational structures of the regional and national Executive Boards, Programs of Work, Bylaws, team building, goal setting, meeting management, convention planning, and personal visits from regional and national association officers.

Members of the Montana Business Education Association leadership team represented the state association during the 2014 WBEA Board Meeting. MBEA President Elaine Stedman (Sidney) and President Elect Doug Andersen (Billings Senior) are Montana's two representatives on the Board and during the meeting shared information about the state of business education in Montana as well as presented details for the 2017 Western Business Education Association Conference, *Elevating Business Education*, which will be hosted by the Montana Business Education Association and held in Bozeman. Also during the WBEA Board Meeting, Conrad High School business educator Janie McFarland was elected to serve a two-year term as secretary for the Western Business Education Association.

During the awards banquet held Sunday evening, Montana Business Education Association Membership Director Linda Cotton (Cascade) was awarded the Robert J. Thompson WBEA Membership Award. This award is presented to the membership director who has achieved, or surpassed, the membership goal set by the National Business Education Association for their State/Territory/Province. In addition to Linda being presented with this award, the Montana Business Education Association also receives \$50.00 to help support membership recruitment efforts. Congratulations Linda and all the Montana members of the National Business Education Association.

Submitted by

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Montana BPA



Greetings from Montana Business Professionals of America,

The BPA State Officers (Tori Hill, President; Kourtney Schott, Vice President; Kelsie Harriman, Secretary; Jack Jennaway, Membership Director; Taylor Anderson, Public Relations Director; and Callum Gannon, Communications Director; Staci Auck, State Officer Coordinator; Anza Kettermann, Executive Secretary; and I have been working diligently the last three months preparing for the upcoming 2014 State Leadership Conference, March 9-11, 2014 in Billings, Montana. Our theme for this year's conference is: "Serving Locally, Leading Globally."

The conference will include two days of rigorous competition in over 70 business related events for over 1,200 Montana high school Business Professionals of America members. Competitions include both judged and non-judged events in the five categories of: Finance, Business Administration, Management Information Systems, Digit Communication & Design, and Management, Marketing & Communication.

Besides the competitive events, the 90 advisors, 1,240 students, and 60 chaperones will attend four general sessions, which includes keynote motivational speaker, Tyson Wooters, Torch Award ceremonies, Special Olympics contributions ceremonies, election of the "2014-2015" state officers, two BPA Scholarship Award recipients, and an Awards Session where over 500 medals and plaques will be awarded to students who place in the top five, three, or two of various open, team and individual events.

The state officers are offering eleven workshops during the conference for everyone to enjoy. The officers are offering two of their own including "Running for State/National Office" and a "Jitterbug Dance" workshop. The other workshops include presentations from experts in the fields of "Medical Response," "International Travel," "Parallel 49 Strategies," "Special Olympics," and "Self Defense."

We have a slate of ten 2014-15 State Officer candidates this year including:

Callum Gannon—Park High School—Advisor-Cathy Ziebarth
Cassie Coburn---White Sulphur Springs—Advisor Julie Hanson
Taylor Anderson—Glacier High School—Advisor Chere' Anderson
Darby Bogden – Cascade High School—Advisor Linda Cotton
Luke Westbrook –Hobson High School Advisor Staci Auck
Whitney Bristol – Fergus High School—Advisor Diane Lewis
McKenzie Stager—Superior High School—Advisor Jamie Toivonen
Hailey Blackwell – Forsyth High School-Advisor Deani Goyette
Drew Mammel—Billings Senior High School—Doug Andersen
Kasey Gorder—Sidney High School—Advisor Elaine Stedman

We have had seven "Silver Star Award" applications, 36 "Member Recruiter Award" applications, and 74 "Statesman Torch Award" recipients who will all be recognized at the conference.

We will also recognize our four new BPA chapters: Hysham, Malta, Twin Bridges, and West Yellowstone as well as 17 advisors who received "Advisor Certification" from the National Business Professionals of America organization. We also have five student BPA members who will receive recognition for attending National BPA Webinars and earning their "Student Certification."

Montana BPA information submitted by Montana BPA State Director, Becky DePuydt, phone: (406) 674-5593; cell phone: (406) 390-5196, Email: beckydepuydt@bpamt.org



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Montana DECA



The Montana DECA State Conference has come and gone. We had 327 students entered from our 10 Montana chapters.

Students with top placements will be able to attend the DECA national conference in Atlanta, GA. Capital High School was recognized again for receiving the THRIVE level award. **Capital High School** will be able to send three additional students to the national conference. Congratulations to Mrs. Karey Conn and her chapter!! **Great Falls High School** advisor, Mr. Scott Donisthorp was recognized for his 10 years of service as DECA advisor. National DECA office created a nice certificate and an additional badge pin for his efforts. Thank you very much Scott for dedication to Montana DECA.

Montana DECA will be represented by each of our 10 chapters when we go to Nationals in May. Congratulations to all of you!

Thank you to all the DECA chapters across the state who have continued to support students in their quest to learn more about business, marketing, entrepreneurship, hospitality and finance!

DECA information submitted by Montana DECA State Director, Krista Bergstrom, phone: (406) 750-1988; Email: kberg151@gmail.com.

Family and Consumer Sciences Education

No update at this time.

Megan A. Vincent

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Montana FCCLA



Montana FCCLA is gearing up for our annual State Leadership Conference in Billings March 23-25. Over 700 students and advisers from throughout Montana will be in attendance. During the conference, students will not only participate in over 20 competitive events they will also present a check to our State Outreach Partner, No Kid Hungry. Throughout the year, Montana FCCLA chapters have been conducting fundraisers, packing backpacks of food for needy families, leading workshops and much more to address childhood hunger.

FCCLA information submitted by Montana FCCLA State Director, Nicole Wanago, phone: (406) 581-7285; Email: nicole.wanago@mtfccla.org.

Health Sciences Education

It has been a busy start to the new year! On January 14th, Flathead Valley Community College held a Pathways meeting for all health science teachers in the northwest corner of the state. This year we are making a concerted effort to review and update all Health Science Pathway paperwork and add dual credit opportunities for our students. We still have to contend with a post-secondary bottleneck at the post-secondary level (approx. 100 applicants per program, with a student cap of 15-20 per program), but we are excited about the progressive steps being initiated to make the secondary-to-post-secondary transition a smooth one.

The National Consortium for Health Science Education (NCHSE) annual meeting took place in Santa Barbara, CA at the end of January and several promising initiatives came out of that meeting. Montana secondary and post-



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secondary health science teachers will pilot a national health science end-of-program exam this spring to determine whether it can be used for possible articulation. Discussion of how to implement common core into health science curriculum was identified as a nationwide concern. State advisors from coast to coast will be meeting monthly via teleconference to develop plans.

A webinar was held on February 11th for health science teachers to discuss participation reports, the April Big Sky Pathway and Dual Credit workshops, Public Health newsletters and lesson plans, and a variety of other options available to health science teachers.

The National Career Pathway Network (NCPN) requested an article about our health science teacher training program for publication in their national newsletter. We are also evaluating this online course as a vehicle to deliver professional development and course alignment between secondary and post-secondary health science teachers.

The Great Falls School District held a mid-year Health Science Advisory Board meeting for staff, business and industry and Great Falls College staff. The meeting was well attended and led to lively discussions on workforce needs, an assessment of the skills of recent grads entering the workforce, future changes in health care jobs, and the necessity for aligning academics and CTE at both secondary and post-secondary levels. Two very promising dual credit certification options were presented by Great Falls College for secondary review. No update at this time.

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Montana HOSA



HOSA-Future Health Professionals- 10th Anniversary Celebration!

Registration is now closed for the 2014 HOSA State Leadership Conference (SLC) to be held in Great Falls at the Best Western Heritage Inn, March 13-15th. HOSA Chapter Advisors and HOSA members are making final preparations for the event. Online testing (pre-qualifiers and health science knowledge tests) are proctored at local schools prior to attending SLC.

HOSA information submitted by Montana HOSA State Director, Megan Bones, phone: (406) 457-8023;
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Industrial, Trades and Technology Education

Portland Community College is offering Automotive Hybrid Scan Data Training on March 25 & 26, in Portland, Oregon. The cost is \$550 per instructor. A flyer will be sent out to Montana teachers containing additional information.

David de Fer, Safety and Health Specialist/Trainer, for the Montana Department of Labor and Industry has available time slots open in March and April to conduct OSHA 10 Training for instructors and students at your location.

Please contact Mr. de Fer at 406-444-9050 if interested in setting up a training date.

Don Michalsky

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SkillsUSA

Joining Hands Helps Members Change Minds



Sure, SkillsUSA is a great organization and an awesome example of what a career and technical student organization can be. But there are other great CTSOs out there, too, and when many voices become one, some powerful messages can be sent. That's the idea behind a new website that nine CTSOs have joined forces to help create: www.ctsos.org. One of the site's main goals is to be an advocacy tool for career and technical education proponents when corresponding with politicians and decision-makers. The site helps explain the value of CTE and its role in building not just a strong economy, but also strong communities. The website features information about each CTSO involved in the project, the latest CTE and CTSO news, Twitter and Facebook feeds, and more. It also features download links for advocacy fliers that have been personalized for each state. Along with a short, effective message on the value of CTSOs, the fliers contain info on the total number of CTSO members statewide as well as within each congressional district in the state. It's a great way to make a generalized message seem more personal and relevant to the government leader receiving it.

*This article appeared in the Spring 2014 issue of *SkillsUSA Champions* magazine and is reprinted with permission.

Great Falls High and Montana State University–Great Falls College

Regional SkillsUSA Welding and Carpentry Competition

Friday, March 14, 2014

MSU–Great Falls College.

- **The Competition will start at 8:00 am and end in the early**
- **The competition is limited to 18 Welders and 16 Carpenters.**
- **All steel will be provided free of charge.**
- **All lumber will be provided free of charge.**
- **Students must provide all personal protective equipment and hand tools**
- **Leather boots must be worn**
- **A written examination will also be given.**
- **Prizes will be awarded.**
- **Pizza lunch will be provided.**

If you have any questions regarding the competition or would like to register please contact-

Pete Pace

Great Falls High School

[406-750-1649](tel:406-750-1649)

pete_pace@gfps.k12.mt.us

BILLINGS CAREER CENTER

SkillsUSA Chapter Donates Freezer to Food Pantry

Earlier this year, the Billings Career Center organized a food pantry to provide basic food and personal items for students that are in need. Counselor Steve Wilson and Culinary Arts teacher Dorothy Bonk, headed up the effort and found a small unused storage room to house the pantry. Last month, an e-mail was sent out saying that a freezer was needed. The members of the BCC SkillsUSA chapter jumped at the opportunity to help. Chapter president Nate Liebe took the lead and called Lowe's Home Improvement for help. Lowes was happy to help and sold the chapter a 7.7 cubic foot freezer for cost. The freezer is now in the pantry and stocked with a variety of health foods for those students in need. Members were happy to help and realize that SkillsUSA is not just about competitions, but also about giving back and community service.

SkillsUSA information submitted by Montana SkillsUSA State Director, Cassie Huntley, cell phone: (406) 461-5016; Email: casshuntley@montanaskillsusa.com.



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Montana TSA



February has just seemed to fly by... We have been extremely busy preparing for the TSA State Leadership and Skills Conference to be held in Billings, April 28-29.. With all the changes we are making this year, the State Officers and advisors have been burning the late night oil. The majority of the planning for this year's TSA State Leadership and Skills Conference has been completed.

You can find all the conference information at the Montana TSA website at www.montanatsa.org The website is constantly changing. Take a few minutes and check out the changes we have made.

TSA is in the process of setting up the Summer Technology Update Conference. Craig has been in contact with Brian Crandell at MSU discussing cost of credits, tentative dates and other logistics. We are also making arrangements for the sessions that will be offered. A few of the possible sessions will be VEX Robotics, 3D printing, MCIS and Pathways. Tentative time for Update Conference will be Mid-June.

Both state advisors will be attending the pathways workshop in March in Helena and Dwight will attend the pathways workshop in Bozeman at the end of April. We are also busy preparing the 3rd Qtr. Report for the HB86 grant.

TSA information submitted by Montana TSA Co-State Directors, Craig Todd, cell phone: 406.690.2524; Email: craig@crystalcnc.com and Dwight Freeman, cell phone: 406.671.6992; Email: Dwight_freeman@yahoo.com.

